

## COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Office of the Governor

Mark R. Warner Governor

September 21, 2005

Ms. Lisa Johnson, President Mirant Potomac River, LLC 8711 Westphalia Road Upper Marlboro, Maryland 20774

Dear Ms. Johnson:

I was very disappointed to learn that Mirant's Potomac River plant has begun operations without the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) having been afforded the opportunity to review the operating scenario that was announced to the media yesterday afternoon.

Recently completed air quality modeling showed dramatic violations of the health based air quality standards potentially affecting thousands of Alexandria's citizens. It is my understanding there have been no improvements made to the plant since it was closed in August as a result of this modeling; however you have elected to restart operations.

I expect better cooperation from Virginia's corporate citizens. Please understand that I will not tolerate any assault on the health, safety, and welfare of Virginia's citizens or the environment, and I insist on compliance with environmental laws and regulations. This matter must be brought to a swift and responsible conclusion. To that end, I have directed my staff to report to me on a regular basis regarding progress toward resolution of this matter. DEQ staff inspectors are onsite today at the plant reviewing your compliance. The bottom line is that you need to either fully comply with environmental laws and regulations or shut down. There is no middle ground here.

Sincerely,

Mark R. Warner

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MRW/wlm